

Congressional Legislative Endorsement

Bill No. and Title:	H. R. 7504 The Rural Veterans Transportation to Care Act
Committee:	Veterans' Affairs
Sponsor: Co-Sponsors:	Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-WA-3) Rep. Juan Ciscomani (R-AZ-6) Rep. Gabe Vasquez (D-NM-2) Rep. Jennifer Kiggans (R-VA-2) Rep. Jared F. Golden (D-ME-2) Rep. Brittany Pettersen ((D-CO-7) Rep. Glenn Thompson (R-PA-15) Rep. Brandon Williams (R-NY-22) Rep. Gregory F. Murphy (R-NC-3) Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-SD-At Large)
Legislative history:	House – 02/29/2024 Introduced House – 03/22/2024 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
Summary of legislation:	The Rural Veterans Transportation to Care Act, aims to improve veterans' transportation options to Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facilities for veterans living in rural areas. This bipartisan bill would expand eligibility to the VA's Highly Rural Transportation Grant Program, which provides grant funding for veteran service organizations and state veterans service agencies to provide veterans transportation in eligible counties, by increasing the maximum amount of funding granted to purchase an ADA-compliant vehicle. The bill would also modify the existing grant program to include both rural and highly rural counties, by redefining "rural" and "highly rural" using Rural-Urban Commuting Area (RUCA) designations to better account for population density, urbanization, and commuting patterns.
Link to text:	https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/7504/text
Contact:	Richard Moore, Dignity Alliance Massachusetts Legislative Chair Rmoore8743@charter.net

Endorsed by 21 members of Dignity Alliance Massachusetts including:

- Frank E. Baskin, LICSW
- Boston Center for Independent Living
- Center for Living & Working Inc., Worcester
- COP Amputee Association, Inc.-COPAA, Wenham
- Judi Fonsh MSW, Leverett
- John J. Ford, Quincy
- Wynn Gerhard, Plymouth
- Arlene Germain, co-founder Dignity Alliance MA and MA Advocates for Nursing Home Reform, Medford
- Margaret Morganroth Gullette, Newton
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